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Security Information

ER-2-6432

MAR 3 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Mr. Gray's Report to the President on PSB; Further Views of the Director

1. In a further discussion with the Director on Saturday morning concerning the preparation of recommendations for the President (Mr. Dulles sitting in at the meeting), the Director made a number of significant statements and two suggestions which should be borne in mind in the work of the ad hoc committee.

2. The Director is generally inclined to accept the recommendations contained in my memorandum to him and stated that he hopes to be able to convince the other members of the PSB that these recommendations are sound and should be adopted. He said that in his preliminary conversation with the President he had suggested the probable desirability of the President's making some form of announcement or press statement generally along the lines of the recommendation (which was originally suggested by [redacted]). Accordingly I trust that Mr. [redacted] has informed Mr. [redacted] of our possible need for the text of such a statement in order to give Mr. [redacted] time to develop a statement if it is called for. In this connection, Mr. [redacted] should consult with Mr. Phillips and possibly General Magruder in order to get the benefit of their suggestions as to treatment and language.

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3. I pointed out to the Director that there is a problem which will have to be met if the decision should be to publish a part of Mr. Gray's report - as written by Mr. Gray - and other parts as revised by the ad hoc committee. The problem obviously will arise from the fact that the edited portions of the statement will no longer be susceptible of representation as "Mr. Gray's Report" - unless he should see fit to accept and adopt as his own the recommended changes. The Director was not inclined to go back at Mr. Gray in an effort to persuade him to adopt our proposed changes. Rather he thought that the matter might better be handled in the following way:

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raise this  
point again  
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a. The portions of the Gray report which are acceptable and desirable in their present form for publication could be released by the President with the statement to the effect that they represent important portions of Mr. Gray's report to him.

b. As for the rest, viz. the parts which the Board might agree should be published in revised form, these could be included in the President's statement to the press commenting

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upon Mr. Gray's report and the importance of this general matter. The recommendations should not be published unless, and to the extent that, the President should have decided to adopt any of the recommendations prior to the time for the press release. In the President's statement to the press he should say that he is publishing only a part of Mr. Gray's report for the reason that other portions contain sensitive and classified information which it would not be in the public interest to release publicly. If the President should be asked whether any recommendations were made by Mr. Gray for changes, etc., in the setup and operations of the Board, the President should reply that certain recommendations had been made and were receiving study.

FRANK G. WISNER

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FGW/ag

1 March 1952

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